

Sept. 19.

## BOSTON FISH PRICES WAY UP.

Only Twelve Fares at T Wharf Today.

Only 12 vessels are reported at Boston today, and with a clean market, the price of all kinds of fresh fish have reached the highest for some weeks.

This is particularly noticeable on haddock, which has been quoted low, but today the price of these fish has exceeded all expectations and they are selling from \$3.25 to \$4.75 per cwt., while cod is quoted from \$3 to \$5, and all other ground fish accordingly.

Most of the vessels in are from shore grounds and have but small fares, while the off shore fishermen are prolonging their trips, owing to scarcity of bait.

The fares and prices in detail are:

### Boston Arrivals.

Sch. Rebecca, 3000 haddock, 6500 cod.  
Sch. Valentina, 21,000 pollock.  
Sch. Elizabeth W. Nunan, 4000 haddock, 2000 cod, 60,000 hake, 2000 cusk, 4000 pollock.  
Sch. Mina Swim, 700 haddock, 7000 cod.  
Sch. Grace Darling, 3000 haddock, 7000 cod.  
Sch. Good Luck, 10,000 cod.  
Sch. Mary DeCosta, 25,000 haddock, 36,000 cod, 5000 pollock.  
Sch. E. C. Hussey, 2100 haddock, 6000 cod.  
Sch. Helen B. Thomas, 17,000 haddock, 1000 cod, 1000 hake.  
Sch. Olivia Sears, 7000 pollock.  
Sch. Julietta, 7 swordfish.  
Sch. Stranger, 31 swordfish.  
Haddock, \$2.25 to \$5 per cwt.; large cod, \$5 to \$6; market cod, \$3.25 to \$4.75; large hake, \$4.50; small hake, \$3; cusk, \$2; pollock, \$2.50 to \$3; swordfish, 16 cents per pound.

### BECALMED FIVE DAYS.

Only Untoward Event on the Trip of the Marjorie Turner While Fishing.

Becalmed for five days with not enough wind to flap the sails was the only untoward incident of a three weeks' cruise reported by Capt. Samuel Colsen on his arrival at Portland Wednesday in the fishing schooner Margie Turner. He came in from the Western banks where he had been fishing for the past three weeks and he had a number of uncomplimentary things to say about the weather, because he was becalmed after he had landed his fare and was eager to get into Portland to dispose of it. The Turner had 20,000 pounds of halibut and five small swordfish. While this is not an extra large fare, it is a pretty good sized one for the vessel is a small craft. Capt. Colsen thought he would stock about \$2200 for the trip. He reported that fish were none too plentiful and the five small swordfish he brought in were the only ones he saw at all.

### BIG SHACKING TRIP.

Sch. Effie M. Prior, Capt. Elroy Prior, Hails for 190,000 Pounds.

One of the most notable trips of salt cod to arrive at this port this season was that of sch. Effie M. Prior, Capt. Elroy Prior, which came in yesterday with a splendid fare of 190,000 pounds, which was taken on Missaine Bank and vicinity. Capt. Prior, was seizing the first of the season and like others engaged in this fishing, did not find it profitable, so he withdrew and fitted out for shacking and has been absent on his recent trip but five weeks which makes this a most remarkable one.

Capt. Prior is one of the best all-round fishermen sailing out of this port, and soon as he found that the mackerel was going to be a failure, lost no time in transferring his fishing operations in another direction, and so is well rewarded for the change he made, for a large stock confronts himself and crew.

## SOME GOOD FISH FARES LANDED.

Receipts at This Port Largest for Many Days.

With the arrival of a number of vessels at this port since Saturday the receipts of fish are quite respectable, but not sufficient to make a depression upon the market, which at this time needs larger supplies than what it is receiving.

Two of the vessels in today are of the flitched halibut fleet and have fairly good fares, sch. Essex having 120,000 pounds and sch. Oregon 125,000 pounds. With the high price prevailing both will make good stocks.

Other trips of considerable magnitude are those of schs. Effie M. Prior, with 190,000 pounds of salt cod, and sch. Raymah with 130,000 pounds.

Of mixed fish sch. Morning Star has a large fare of 110,000 pounds of fresh cod and 50,000 pounds of salt cod.

The arrivals and receipts in detail are:

### Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

Sch. Essex, Davis Strait, 120,000 lbs. flitched halibut.  
Sch. Oregon, Davis Strait, 125,000 lbs. flitched halibut.  
Sch. Effie M. Prior, Missaine Bank, 190,000 lbs. salt cod.  
Sch. Raymah, Quero Bank, 130,000 lbs. salt cod.  
Sch. Morning Star, Quero Bank, 110,000 lbs. fresh cod, 50,000 lbs. salt cod.  
Sch. Selma, via Portland, 15,000 lbs. salt cod, 15,000 lbs. fresh.  
Sch. Waldo L. Stream, via Portland.  
Sch. Mary E. Cooney, shore.  
Sch. Catherine Burke, returned.  
Sch. Catherine D. Enos, via Boston.  
Sch. Mary J. Ward, via Boston.  
Sch. Dixie, via Boston.  
Sch. Little Fannie, via Boston.

### Vessels Sailed.

Sch. Wm. H. Rider, drifting.  
Sch. Gladys and Sabra, drifting.  
Sch. Mabel E. Bryson, shore.  
Sch. Blanche F. Irving, shore.  
Sch. Esther Gray, shore.  
Sch. Mary DeCosta, Boston.

### Today's Fish Market.

Handline Georges cod, large, \$4 per cwt.; medium, \$3.50.  
Trawl Georges cod, large, \$3.75 per cwt.; medium, \$3.25.  
Trawl bank cod, large, \$3.35 per cwt.; medium, \$3.  
Drift Georges cod, large, \$3.75 per cwt.; medium, \$3.50.  
Outside sales of Bank cod, \$3.75 for large and \$3.50 for medium.  
Salt cusk, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$2.  
Salt haddock, \$1.25 per cwt.  
Salt hake, \$1.25 per cwt.  
Salt pollock, \$1.25 per cwt.  
Dory handline cod, large, \$3.75 per cwt.; medium, \$3.50.  
Splitting prices for fresh fish:  
Western cod, large, \$2.25 per cwt.; medium, \$1.75.  
Eastern cod, large, \$1.90 per cwt.; medium, \$1.55; snappers, 60 cts.  
Western Bank cod, large, \$2.12 1-2 per cwt.; medium, \$1.65.  
Cusk, large, \$1.65 per cwt.; medium, \$1.25; snappers, 50 cts.  
Haddock, \$1.10 per cwt.; hake, \$1.10 per cwt.; dressed pollock, 75 cts. per cwt.; round pollock, 70 cts. per cwt.

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### Mackerel Notes.

Only 31 barrels fresh mackerel were landed by the New England fleet for the week, the total landed for the season being 19,593 barrels against 45,948 barrels last year. The imports of salt mackerel for the week were 879 barrels, including 510 barrels from Ireland, 300 barrels from Norway and 69 barrels from Canada. The total imports for the season have been 9377 barrels, against 8791 for the same time last year. The new Norway mackerel are selling from first hands at \$26@27 barrel for 1s, \$20 barrel for 2s, \$16@17 for 3s and \$12.50@13.50 barrel for 4s.

The jobbing trade is very quiet, Nova Scotia mackerel being quoted at \$18.25@19.25 barrel for large 3s and \$18.75@19.75 barrel for large 2s, all about 150 count. Irish mackerel are jobbing at \$14.70@15 barrel for 325 to 350 count. Norway mackerel are offered in a jobbing way at \$20@21 barrel for 325 to 340 count and \$16.50@17 barrel for 400 to 450 count.

## FLITCHED HALIBUTERS ARRIVED

Schs. Essex and Oregon Bring Good Fares From the Far North.

Among the arrivals at this port today are schs. Essex, Capt. Michael Wise, and sch. Oregon, Capt. Albert Flygore, of the flitched halibut fleet, with fairly good fares of 120,000 and 125,000 pounds respectively.

Both vessels have been out over four months and during that time have fished for halibut from the Gulf of St. Lawrence to the mouth of Hudson Bay. In going north up Davis Strait, they tried continually for halibut, and while they found scattering halibut, did not get any big fishing.

Both men are old halibut fishers and Arctic navigators, Capt. Wise, being mate of sch. John R. Bradley, which carried Dr. Cook up north on his polar expeditions, while Capt. Flygore has made repeated halibut trips to the far north, and is familiar with that region.

Both men say the season up there was fine and much better than what they have seen other years. The absence of ice fields which they have seen other years was noticeable. Although numerous ice bergs, some of enormous size was seen, ranging from 50 to 200 feet high and a third of a mile on the surface, but at no time were they in danger from the ice bergs, and no accidents happened either to vessels or crews.

### Fishing Fleet Movements.

Schs. Esperanto and Dauntless were at Port Hawkesbury on Friday.

Schs. Miranda and Monitor arrived at Canso on Thursday.

Sch. Moanam arrived at Canso on Friday.

Sch. Thomas L. Gorton put in at Halifax on Friday and cleared for the fishing ground.

Schs. Ramona and Flora S. Nickerson arrived at Liverpool on Friday.

Sch. Corsair arrived at Louisburg, C. B., on Friday with 175,000 pounds of cod and sch. Avalon with 900 quintals and cleared for the fishing grounds. Sch. Senator Gardner was also at Louisburg on Friday.

### On the Railways.

Sch. Claudia is on Rocky Neck railways.

Schs. Evelyn L. Thompson and Catherine Burke are on Burnham Brothers' railways.

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### Lunenburg, N. S. Fleet Ends Season.

A Lunenburg dispatch says that since the last fishery report several vessels have arrived from the Grand Banks with a total catch of 39,400 quintals, augmenting the total catch for the season to 147,125 quintals. The majority of the schooners are now at home and will not engage in fishing during the rest of the season, on account of bait being scarce, and ice almost unobtainable and disaffection among the crews. There is great diversity of opinion among legal men, and also those engaged in the fishing business in regard to the articles which fishing crews are required to sign, whether they are really binding or not. Many cases have been tried in court, in which crews after signing articles refused to fish, did not turn up. So imperative have the articles proven to be, that when a man refuses to fish the skipper generally bows to the inevitable rather than go through a legal process in which he invariably loses.

Sch. Upanus arrived from the Banks a few days ago with 1,300 quintals and a baiting unfinished, the crew threw up the sponge, and Capt. Schwartz had to return home, when he had a fine chance of making a big trip. The crew grew mutinous threw their tubs overboard, and the vessel was brought home by the captain, cook and the hired boys.

Sch. Clintonia, Capt. Emil Mack, one of our very best skippers, also had trouble with some of his men, and had to run in with a fresh squid baiting, which he sold to another vessel which caught 300 quintals off the baiting. The captain landed his mutineers and has again gone out to the fishing grounds.

Sch. Eva June, Capt. Schnare, caught 700 quintals in one week off Cape North, bringing her up among the top-notchers of the fleet.

# RECIPROCITY WITH CANADA.

## Negotiations Being Made Looking Toward Treaty.

According to the dispatches from Beverly, negotiations looking towards the conclusion of a reciprocity treaty between this country and Canada direct will be opened next month, as it was given out that the British Ambassador James Bryce had assented to the negotiations being carried on without the formality of being conducted through the British embassy.

The details of the negotiations have not been arranged as yet, but it is the hope of President Taft that before the end of October the representatives of both countries will be able to come together.

Whether the United States will send delegates to Canada or Canada its representatives to Washington is not yet known. Neither is it known whether any agreement that may be reached will be made effective by concurrent legislation or by treaty.

The reciprocity idea will meet with considerable opposition in both countries, but it is believed that the Canadian opposition is more pronounced than that in the United States, chiefly because of the growth of Canadian manufacturing enterprises. The Canadian premier, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, has declared in favor of the proposed agreement, and it is felt here that the negotiations will be carried through to a satisfactory conclusion.

In the event of a treaty providing lower rates than the Payne-Aldrich tariff bill a constitutional question will be involved as to how far the house of representatives must go in the matter of revenue measures.

When the Cuban reciprocity treaty was concluded this constitutional question was avoided by having the house give its assent to the treaty by joint resolution. It is considered probable that the same procedure may be taken in regard to a reciprocity treaty with Canada.

The president, it is known, is deeply interested in the matter and considers it of the greatest importance.

Local interests are much concerned over such a movement, and if such a precedent has been established by Great Britain, it is to be hoped that Newfoundland may be included in the arrangement so that some agreement may be reached with regards to the herring fishery which will be of mutual benefit.

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### YOUNGEST FISHERMEN.

#### Swampscott Boy Is But 14 Years of Age.

Swampscott claims the distinction of having the youngest fisherman on the Atlantic coast. He is Charles Cahoon, who has just passed 14, and he has been following the trade for some time past.

Young Cahoon is not a fisherman for the fun of it, but is in it for business, and very often his catches are fully as large as those of the older fishermen who have set out from the Swampscott fishhouse daily for many years.

Long before dawn all during the present summer young Cahoon could be seen at the Swampscott beach preparing to set off for the fishing grounds, which are located some six or seven miles off Egg Rock, and just as the sun begins to peep above the horizon he may be found almost in the middle of Massachusetts bay engaged in making his day's catch.

For some time young Cahoon has been a choir boy at the Church of the Holy Name in Swampscott. He is credited with having one of the best voices in the choir.

The money which young Charlie accumulates at his daily task he is saving to complete his education. Next month he enters the Swampscott High school, and when his studies there are completed he contemplates entering the Institute of Technology at Boston, where he will study engineering.

# HADDOCK AND COD SOARING HIGH.

## Fresh Fish Scarce at T Wharf This Morning.

With only six arrivals at Boston today another advance was made in the price of fresh fish, so that quotations are the highest of the season. Haddock which was at low water mark last week, has now advanced beyond all expectations, until it has reached \$5 per cwt, and upwards, while cod is quoted \$5 to \$6 and other ground fish accordingly.

Such prices as these so early in the season is almost unheard of. The cause for this sharp advance may be laid to the fact, that for some time vessels have been detained in port owing to the scarcity of bait, so that only a small fleet have been on the fishing ground, the past week. The report now that squid have struck in at the South Shore, which will enable the vessels to get a supply will have a tendency to increase arrivals and receipts.

On the Yarmouth steamer yesterday were seven albacores, and on the Halifax steamer several swordfish. Six barrels of fresh mackerel came up from the shore fishermen in Maine, and the smelt fishermen sent up 20 boxes of smelts.

The fares and prices in detail are:

### Boston Arrivals.

Sch. Victor and Ethan, 12,000 haddock, 14,000 cod, 10,000 hake.

Steamer Spray, 40,000 haddock, 5000 cod.

Sch. Mary G. Sanborn, 14,000 haddock, 15,000 cod, 5000 hake.

Sch. Mary T. Fallon, 6000 haddock, 1000 cod, 12,000 hake.

Sch. Actor, 3000 pollock.

Sch. Emily Cooney, 35,000 hake.

Haddock, \$5 to \$5.50 per cwt.; large cod, \$5 to \$6.50; market cod, \$5 to \$6; hake, \$2.50 to \$4.50; no sales of pollock.

### BANKERS AT LOUISBURG, C. B.

#### Report Fish Fairly Plentiful but Bait Scarce.

A letter to the Times from Louisburg, C. B., under date of Wednesday reports the following Gloucester vessels at that port: Sch. Annie M. Parker, Capt. Angus Hines, with 10 tubs of fish; sch. Corsair, Capt. Oscar Lyons, with 120,000 pounds fish; sch. Avalon, Capt. Louis Wharton, with 90,000 pounds; sch. Priscilla Smith, Capt. McKenzie, with 90,000. Sch. William Matheson of Provincetown was also there, having arrived the day previous, with 220,000 pounds fish.

Capt. Wharton of sch. Arabia says that fish are showing fairly plentiful but bait is scarce. He fished at St. Pierre bank for a while and bait became so scarce that he went to Quero. The same difficulty exists at Quero. There are very few squid about the bank, and it is the same on the nearer fishing grounds to Scattered.

Inshore fishermen have been very much hampered in their work, especially since the month of August for want of bait. No herring were caught there during August, and while in former years squid used to be plentiful, this season there are scarcely any, at least if they are about they do not jig. Whenever the fishermen can secure bait, they find the codfish quite plenty.

No mackerel have been taken in nets or with hook and line about Louisburg this season.

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### Halibut at Yarmouth.

Sch. Viola Hatfield arrived at Yarmouth, N. S., last Thursday with the largest catch of the season. The catch was 8000 lbs. halibut and 3500 lbs. cod. There were only five dories out this trip of six days.

### Halibut at Portland.

Sch. Agnes arrived at Portland Sunday with 7000 pounds of halibut, 30,000 pounds of fresh and 7000 pounds of salt fish. The halibut will be taken out there and the balance of the trip brought here.

# THREE FARES AT THIS PORT.

## One Pollocker and Two by Way of Portland.

The receipts of fish at this port today are confined to three small fares, two of them via Portland, and one from shore pollocking. It was thought that the easterly wind would bring in a large fleet, especially the shackers, several of whom are now due, but as they did not make their appearance, the supposition is that they are finding fish scarce at this time.

The catch by the shore boats is nominally nothing and the few they are landing is sold for immediate use. Today's arrivals and receipts in detail are:

### Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

Sch. Agnes, via Portland, 25,000 lbs. hake.

Sch. Margaret, via Portland, 8090 lbs. salt cod, 8000 lbs. fresh cod.

Sch. Flora J. Sears, shore, 12,000 lbs. pollock.

### Vessels Sailed.

Sch. Massasoit, shore.

Sch. Stiletto, shacking.

Sch. Onata, shacking.

Sch. Conqueror, shacking.

Sch. Richard, shacking.

Sch. Buema, shacking.

Sch. Ramona, eastern deck handling.

Sch. Edmund F. Black, Portland.

Sch. A. C. Newhall, Boston.

Sch. Actor, Boston.

### Today's Fish Market.

Handline Georges cod, large, \$4 per cwt.; medium, \$3.50.

Trawl Georges cod, large, \$3.75 per cwt.; medium, \$3.25.

Trawl bank cod, large, \$3.35 per cwt.; medium, \$3.

Drift Georges cod, large, \$3.75 per cwt.; medium, \$3.50.

Outside sales of Bank cod, \$3.75 for large and \$3.50 for medium.

Salt cusk, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$2.

Salt haddock, \$1.25 per cwt.

Salt hake, \$1.25 per cwt.

Salt pollock, \$1.25 per cwt.

Dory handline cod, large, \$3.75 per cwt.; medium, \$3.50.

Splitting prices for fresh fish:

Western cod, large, \$2.25 per cwt.; medium, \$1.75.

Eastern cod, large, \$1.90 per cwt.; medium, \$1.55; snappers, 60 cts.

Western Bank cod, large, \$2.12 1-2 per cwt.; medium, \$1.65.

Cusk, large, \$1.65 per cwt.; medium, \$1.25; snappers, 50 cts.

Haddock, \$1.10 per cwt.; hake, \$1.10 per cwt.; dressed pollock, 75 cts. per cwt.; round pollock, 70 cts. per cwt.

### Sch. Stiletto Stocked \$3200 on Shackling Trip.

Capt. Reuben Cameron, who was engaged in mackerel seining this season and discontinued it, owing to the failure of this fishing and went shackling in sch. Stiletto, arriving here last week, made a good stock of \$3200 while the crew shared \$75. The time absent was but four weeks. Capt. Cameron thought that shack fishing was more profitable this season than seining and regrets he had not commenced earlier.

### Will Buy Fish at Provincetown.

Frank Neal the T wharf fish buyer, has leased the George O. Knowles wharf and will carry on a fish buying plant. Anthony S. Brown, who has been engaged in the fish business in Boston the past few years, has been there several days and closed the deal for Mr. Neal. Mr. Brown will have charge of the wharf and will return to Provincetown, his native town, to reside.

### Squid at Provincetown.

A telegram to Capt. Henry M. Atwood from Provincetown reports squid having struck in there quite plentiful, and vessels would have no trouble to bait. This will be cheering news to the fishermen who have been waiting some days for a supply of bait which they were unable to obtain anywhere along the coast.

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## DORY STABBED BY SWORDFISH.

### Perilous Experience of Men of Sch. Waldo L. Stream.

It is not a very pleasant sensation to be sitting in a dory and all of a sudden to see a big swordfish ram his sword through the side of your craft and threaten to tip you over. Andrew Strickland and James Olsen, members of the crew of the fishing schooner Waldo L. Stream, were the central figures in a little incident of this kind last Wednesday. They reported their adventure on reaching Portland, Friday noon.

Three weeks ago the Waldo L. Stream under the command of Capt. Frank Stream sailed away from there. She went to Brown's bank and put in the time fishing there, trawling for halibut of course. Last Wednesday Strickland and Olsen were out in their dory attending to their lines. The water was calm and there was not a suggestion of trouble in the air. All at once the dorsal fin of a swordfish was seen cutting the water, then there was a sharp rap, the sound of splintering wood and about two feet of swordfish sword was sticking through the side of the dory in which were the two men.

They did not get excited; such a thing would never do with a fish weighing perhaps 200 pounds tied to your craft by part of his own body. The boat began to leak and the two men decided that something must be done at once. It would not do to break off the sword for that would split the side of the boat and let in more water.

A third of a mile away in another dory were Peter Lake and Albert Swansen, other members of the Stream's crew. Strickland and Olsen raised one of their oars and waved it as a signal. The other two men saw it, grabbed their oars, and started in hot haste for the two in distress. As Strickland afterward described they fairly seemed to fly over the water.

When help arrived, the rest was a comparatively simple matter. A rope was passed around the body of the swordfish and he was held firm by this until the head and sword could be cut off. Then both dories returned to the schooner. Here the sword was cut out of the side of the dory and repairs made. The charge of the swordfish was explained on the ground that the big fellow had seen the bait and in trying to grab it pierced the side of the boat.

### ATTACKED BY SHARK.

#### Monster Larger Than Their Dory Seized Gunwale.

The fishing schooner Topsail Girl arrived at Portland yesterday and two of the men, William Goodwin and Edward Daggett, told of an exciting experience off the Roseway banks. They were fishing in a dory, when a monster shark made a sudden rush and seized the gunwale of the boat.

They fought for their lives and at last killed the shark, but not until they were nearly tired out. The shark was of the man-eating kind and longer than their dory.

### Swordfish at Louisburg, C. B.

Quite a large number of swordfish were landed at Louisburg, C. B., last week by the several boats and schooners engaged in the business and shipped to American markets. This is a new branch of the fisheries on this coast and promises to be a very remunerative one. Last week six schooners engaged in the trade operated from port and all trade reported fair catches, one schooner landing one which tipped the scale at 545 pounds and was claimed to be the largest landed in Nova Scotia. As yet practically the whole catch is shipped to the American markets where it demands a high price, being much more in favor than halibut which its flesh closely resembles. Swordfish finds very little demand in the markets of Canada, not nearly sufficient to take care of the supply which may be partly accounted for by its never having been properly advertised or placed before the people as an enticing article of food.

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### FOUND SWORDFISH PLENTY.

#### Capt. Shea Divided Good Fortune With Two Other Skippers.

Capt. John Shea completed his last swordfishing trip of the season in sch. Stranger yesterday, landing 31 swordfish at Boston, which he caught under difficulties that earlier in the season might not have been surmounted. Capt. Shea took his schooner, the Stranger, to Georges, 129 miles from Highland light.

There was a thick fog, but chance brought a big swordfish within sight of the man at the masthead, and within half an hour it had been captured. It weighed 400 pounds. This was taken as a good omen and Capt. Shea decided to remain in the vicinity.

As the fog was still thick a dory was put over the side to mark the place and then came another difficulty. Swordfishermen do not carry dory anchors, but one was rigged up, and the dory cast off with a light in her. The ruse to attract the fish was successful, and four more big fish were taken, and on the next day in spite of the fog more were added.

Then Capt. Thomas Frost of sch. Esther Gray came along. He had been unsuccessful further eastward, and Capt. Shea with a fisherman's willingness to share his good fortune with his fellows, told Capt. Frost that there were fish in the vicinity. Capt. Frost accepted the advice to stay and as a result made the catch he brought to Boston last week. Capt. Shea's luck did not desert him, and he added several more fish to those he had in the hold before another swordfisherman came along.

This was Capt. Maurice Lubec, who also arrived at Boston with his last catch last week. Capt. Shea explained the situation to him, and gave him the same advice he had given Capt. Frost, and the three captains fished together for several days with good success. Capt. Lubec leaving the grounds when he had taken enough fish to make his stock for the season a good one. By following the advice of Capt. Shea, and sticking to that vicinity he got fish enough to stock well above \$1000, and Capt. Frost stocked about \$700.

Capt. Shea had not had very good luck early in the season, and he remained until he was sure that his last trip would make up for his early lack of success, and with the 31 swordfish well iced down he left the grounds Saturday, with the thick fog still hanging over the ocean. His fish averaged in weight about 300 pounds, which will bring his stock between \$1300 and \$1400 and his stock for the season up to \$5000, and as each of the crew has already had \$170 for the first three trips, and will have in the vicinity of \$80 for this one, the season will have proved a good one for them.

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### Codfish Sales.

The fare of salt fish of sch. Edith M. Prior was sold to William F. Moore & Co.

The fare of sch. Raymah was sold to Davis Bros.

The fare of sch. Morning Star was sold to the Cunningham & Thompson Company.

### Good Halibut Yield.

An exchange says that over 35,000,000 lbs. of halibut, was taken out of the waters of Hecate Straits, Prince Charlotte Sound, and on the west coasts of Vancouver Island last year.

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### Will Command Sch. Richard.

Capt. Lovell J. Hodgdon, who was one of the leading fish killers sailing out of this port, and who has been engaged in various work the last 10 years on shore left today as master of the fine sch. Richard, on a shacking trip with 22 men. Capt. Hodgdon, when he went was into the game catching fish, and doubtless will be heard from again when he returns loaded as his many friends hope he will.

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## RED FUNGUS GROWTH ON SALT CODFISH

### Due to Combination of Heated Air and Moisture.

To the Editor of the Times:—Red fungus growth on salt codfish is brought about through the decomposing action of a ferment which takes place anywhere and everywhere on the surface of the globe where heat and moisture are combined. In Cuba, the rainy season is followed by the so-called dry season, which in reality is the hot moist air season when vegetation thrives and fruits ripen and decompose. It is during this heated moist air season that the fungus growth of different colors appear on food products, on codfish red, on smoked hams and cheese green, on bread dark blue, and on other food products different colors, according to the nature of the products. The more heated moist air, the more fungus growth, anywhere and everywhere on the surface of the earth.

Albumen is one of the quickest known substances to decompose or separate into its constituent parts. Our heavy salted or pickle cured codfish contains a large percentage of water. Salt attracts heat, and when the temperature is up in the 90's, the water becomes heated and a gentle boiling takes place which starts a fermentation or a decomposition of the natural glutinous or albuminous matter or nutritive properties of the codfish. Decomposition is not necessarily putrefaction, which is decomposition when it is accompanied by an offensive odor.

When an antiseptic such as a boric acid compound or benzoate of soda is applied to salt codfish, it unites with the glutinous or albuminous matter naturally contained in abundance by codfish and forms a new composition which is not susceptible of the decomposing action of a ferment.

In the spring of 1909 the ruling of the secretaries of the treasury, agriculture and commerce and labor, (which followed the Remsen board decision) that packers of food products might use as much benzoate of soda as they pleased under certain conditions, which were that instructions of some kind, which up to this time have not been defined by the national or any state pure food authorities, for removing the benzoate of soda should be printed on the labels or coverings of the food products, practically settled the saltfish question for a long time.

There are several formulas in operation for removing the preservative from salt fish, all of which originated with the fish packers themselves. Some of the packers who were thoroughly satisfied that the decision of the Remsen board was a wise decision

and that the ruling of the secretaries of the treasury, agriculture and commerce and labor was a fair and just ruling, use only a few words in the formula and do not mention the quantity of water to be used on a pound of codfish, while others use many words and much water. It is a pleasant and perfectly proper "go as you please" arrangement, nobody here knowing or caring whether salt codfish would, if they gave it a chance, which nobody need do, turn red, blue, green, brown, or yellow, as the matter was settled for a long time to come by the action of the three secretaries, in the spring of 1909, who with full authority, so amended the rules and regulations for enforcing the national pure food law as to permit the use of benzoate of soda under certain conditions, one of the most important of which was strict conformity with regulation 17, circular 21, which relates to the proper branding or labeling of the goods.

Much has recently been said regarding cleanliness and sanitary precautions which is good, very good, but much, very much, has been done in that direction by our packers during the past two years. No doubt more can be done, but after it is done, the fact will still remain that fermentation or decomposition will continue. As a test if codfish right out of the water alive and flipping, in November, December, January, February or March, should be split, washed and salted heavily on board of a vessel into a r/w iron-bound cask and the cask filled with very strong brine, and headed and coopered tightly, landed on shore and then shipped to Kansas, Missouri or any other state where the temperature gets up into the 90's, and